

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/638,081

Examiner

Beemnet W. Dada

Applicant(s)

KATOH ET AL.

Art Unit

2135

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 09/15/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3, 11, 13, 16, 18, 19 and 21.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 09/15/2005 09/638081
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Handwritten signature
Primary Examiner
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DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Joseph T. Van Leeuwen Reg. No. 44,383 on 21 November 2005.

The application has been amended as follows: In the claims,

1. (Currently Amended) A method for preventing an unauthorized access to information equipment in addition to the use of a password comprising the steps of:
storing utilization information of previous access to the information equipment along with at least one password in an electrically writeable read only memory having access controls that control access to reading and/or writing the utilization information and the password;
informing a current user of the utilization information of previous accesses when the current user obtains access to the information equipment;
writing utilization information of the current user's access into the electrically writeable read only memory for informing a future user of the current user's access and using the access controls to read and/or write utilization information and to block access of the current user for modification of such utilization information; and
writing the utilization information when the information equipment resumes from a power saving mode, wherein the current utilization information includes one of:

the number of power-on times of the information equipment;

the number of resumes of the information equipment from a power saving mode;

the number of activation times of the information equipment including the number of power-on times and the number of resumes from the power saving mode;

the last date and time of power-on or the last date and time of power-off of the information equipment;

the last date and time of shifting the information equipment to the power saving mode or the last date and time of resuming the information equipment from the power saving mode; and

the total use time of the information equipment.

2. (Currently Amended) The method for preventing an unauthorized access to information equipment according to claim 1, wherein the utilization information includes at least one of each of:

~~the number of power-on times of the information equipment;~~

~~the number of resumes of the information equipment from a power saving mode;~~

the number of selections of a specific function of the information equipment; and

the number of activation times of the information equipment including at least one of:

~~the number of power-on times and the number of resumes from the power saving mode, the last date and time of power-on or the last date and time of power-off of the information equipment;~~

~~the last date and time of shifting the information equipment to the power saving mode or the last date and time of resuming the information equipment from the power saving mode;~~

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the last date and time when a specific function of the information equipment was selected or the last date and time when use of the specific function of the information equipment was completed; and
~~a total use time of the information equipment.~~

5. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A computer comprising:

a nonvolatile storage means for storing passwords that can lock storage contents against modification by users;

a utilization information management unit for obtaining utilization information about time of use of the computer when the computer resumes from a power saving mode, and writing the utilization information into the nonvolatile storage means, and locking storage contents; and

a teaching unit for informing a user of the utilization information obtained by the utilization information management unit and stored in the nonvolatile storage means where it cannot be modified by the user, wherein the utilization information includes at least one of:

the number of power-on times of the computer;

the number of resumes of the computer from a power saving mode;

the number of activation times of the computer including the number of power-on times and the number of resumes from the power saving mode;

the last date and time of power-on or the last date and time of power-off of the computer;

the last date and time of shifting the computer to the power saving mode or the last date and time of resuming the computer from the power saving mode; and the total use time of the computer.

12. (Canceled)
16. (Currently Amended) An information equipment program product on an information equipment usable medium method for preventing an unauthorized access to the information equipment the program product comprising the steps of:
software for obtaining utilization information about time of use of the information equipment;
software for using the controls for controlling access to passwords to write and/or read and to lock utilization information into a writeable read only storage means used to store the passwords;
software for informing a user of the previous utilization information; and
software for writing utilization information by the user into storage means to be obtained next time the equipment is used by an authorized user, said utilized information including when the information equipment resumes from a power saving mode, wherein the current utilization information includes at least one of each of:
the number of power-on times of the information equipment;
the number of resumes of the information equipment from a power saving mode;
the number of selections of a specific function of the information equipment;
the number of activation times of the information equipment including at least one of:

the number of power-on times and the number of resumes from the power saving mode;

the last date and time of power-on or the last date and time of power-off of the information equipment;

the last date and time of shifting the information equipment to the power saving mode or the last date and time of resuming the information equipment from the power saving mode;

the last date and time when a specific function of the information equipment was selected or the last date and time when use of the specific function of the information equipment was completed; and
a total use time of the information equipment.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) The program product according to Claim [[17]] 16 including:
software for writing utilization information to be obtained or information necessary for obtaining utilization information into a nonvolatile storage means that can lock storage contents, and locking the storage contents of the storage means.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Beemnet W. Dada whose telephone number is (571) 272-3847. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (9:00 am - 5:30 pm).

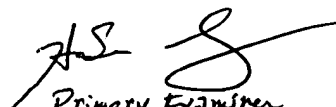
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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Y. Vu can be reached on (571) 272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Beemnet W Dada

November 21, 2005


Primary Examiner
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